

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME.

Jerry M. Conley, Director

NAMPA FISH HATCHERY

Annual Report



1 October 1981 - 30 September 1982

by

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ABSTRACT

This year the Nampa Fish Hatchery was purchased from Verde Anderson on 10 March 1982 for approximately \$925,000, including renovations. The hatchery lies two miles south of Nampa city limits in Canyon County. The purchase included the fish inventory, most of which was planted out during the summer, for a total of 87,339 pounds, 558,508 R-1 and R-2 rainbow. Estimated production is 250,000 pounds, using 35-to-50 cfs of water from seven artesian wells 16" in diameter. Five of these wells have pumps installed for nitrogen degassing of water.

We were half-way into the year, so our conversions wouldn't be accurate; the conversion for the last half of the year was 1.76 and cost per pound .782.

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OBJECTIVES

1. The objective Of the Nampa Hatchery was to plant out the inventory of rainbow that was purchased with the hatchery into streams, lakes, and reservoirs of Idaho.
2. To rear fish to plant size and get fish started for the next year's production.

INTRODUCTION

Nampa Hatchery is located in Treasure Valley, southwestern Idaho, Canyon County, two miles south of Nampa. It receives water from seven artesian wells 16" in diameter. Five of these wells are on hatchery property and two belong to the Nampa-Meridian irrigation district. The water flow varies from 35-to-50 cfs and it appears the water table is directly related to water level of Lake Lowell. I have been told by people that this water was not here on the surface prior to Lake Lowell being constructed.

The hatchery has 13 raceways 360' long, 12' wide, 4' deep, divided into three sections; three raceways 180' long, 12' wide, 3' deep, and two sections; and 16 raceways 50' long, 5' wide, 3' deep. The hatchery room has five fiberglass circular vats and updwelling incubators.

The hatchery should be able to produce 250,000 pounds. FISH

PRODUCTION

Rainbow Trout

Fish on hand 10 March 1982 at purchase time was 687,748 fish, 138,636 pounds; at the end of the fish year we had 768,425 fish and 40,935 pounds. We received 1,005,632 eyed eggs and planted or transferred 558,508 fish, 187,339 pounds. The eyed eggs were received from Aqua Life, Troutlodge, and Mt. Whitney hatcheries.

FISH HEALTH

IHN was diagnosed at the station in September. The mortalities went up on some fish transferred in from McCall Hatchery for holdovers - no way we could really tell whether it was brought in or was already here. At first, I thought we brought it in, but it could have already been here. We get these small raceways-crowded to a certain point and the same symptoms begin to appear. If we get the fish moved and spread out, the mortalities don't show up.

The fingerling holdovers have all been vaccinated for ERM; we did have some symptoms and mortalities in some fish that got overcrowded before we got started planting them out.

I believe our biggest loss is to bird depredations; mainly to blue herons and night herons. I came up with a 17% loss to birds. California hatcheries are claiming a 30% increase on pond inventories after installing electric fencing on raceway walls.

FISH TRANSFERS

Table .1 includes all transfers from Nampa Hatchery to other stations.

FISH RELEASES

The following are totals planted in the different regions of the state from Nampa Hatchery.

HATCHERY IMPROVEMENTS

New covers were constructed and installed over the headrace of the large and intermediate raceways. A flag pole was built and installed.

Table 1. Fish transfers from Nampa Hatchery, 10 March 1982 through 30 September 1982.

Date	Species	Receiving station	Number	Pounds	Size
3/31/82	RB-R-1	Clark Fork	9,400	4,700	2.0
3/31/82	RB-R-1	Clark Fork	3,220	2,300	1.4
5/04/82	RB-R-1	Kamiah	6,480	3,600	1.8
5/04/82	RB-R-1	Clark Fork	11,040	4,600	2.4
5/05/82	RB-R-1	Hagerman	18,480	5,650	3.3
5/17/82	RB-R-1	McCall	5,520	2,300	2.4
5/17/82	RB-R-1	McCall	1,080	900	1.2
5/18/82	RB-R-1	Kamiah	9,600	4,000	2.4
5/25/82	RB-R-1	McCall	2,500	1,000	2.5
5/25/82	RB-R-1	McCall	1,924	1,600	1.2
5/25/82	RB-R-1	McCall	3,000	600	5.0
5/27/82	RB-R-1	Kamiah	3,600	2,400	1.5
7/15/82	RB-R-1	Kamiah	7,680	2,400	3.2
7/15/82	RB-R-1	McCall	6,930	2,100	3.3
7/22/82	RB-R-1	McCall	8,640	2,700	3.2
8/26/82	RB-R-1	McCall	7,200	2,400	3.0
Totals			106,294	43,250	

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

The visitors to this station has been slow, but I believe it will change drastically this coming year. We had two Cub Scout groups and one biology class. I doubt that we had 200 people visit the hatchery this year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hatchery staffing during the year included:

Walter D. Rast, Fish Hatchery Superintendent II

Dan Ady, Bio Aide

Gary Ady, Bio Aide

Doug Knifong, Fish Culturist

Andy Ricks, CETA

Gordon Furihman, CETA